GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3949
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2002
PROCUREMENT OF DEFENCE HARDWARE
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public money is being squandered by the service Headquarters such as Air Headquarter in procuring systems valuing crores of rupees not meeting qualitative requirements and remaining unused uptill the time their warranty expires as had been pointed out by the CAG in its Report No. 8 of 2001 in paragraph 10 on pages 32-33;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to improve the system of procurement of defence hardwares and other items; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper utilization of public money?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): Para 10 of CAG Report No. 8 of 2001 referred to in the question relates to procurement of communication system for Cheetah helicopters. The communication sets procured did not meet certain parameters outlined in Operational Requirements. However, since these parameters were not significant for operating these sets, waiver was granted. Detailed flight evaluation trials were conducted by IAF before induction of these sets. Improvement in the system of procurement is a continuous process. Corrective action, wherever required, are taken.